

# Agriculture in Brief

## Sunshine Coast Regional District



### MUNICIPALITIES

GIBSONS, Town of  
SECHELT, District of  
SECHELT Indian Government District

### ELECTORAL AREA

"A" – PENDER HARBOUR / EGMONT  
"B" – HALFMOON BAY  
"D" – ROBERTS CREEK  
"E" – ELPHINSTONE  
"F" – WEST HOWE SOUND



**Jurisdictional Makeup:** The Sunshine Coast Regional District has 3 member municipalities and 5 electoral areas.

|   |    |         |
|---|----|---------|
| Population <sup>1</sup> (2006)                | #  | 27,759  |
| Jurisdictional Area <sup>2</sup>              | ha | 382,390 |
| Population Increase (1971-2006)               | #  | 18,439  |
| Agricultural Land Reserve <sup>3</sup> (2008) | ha | 3,979   |

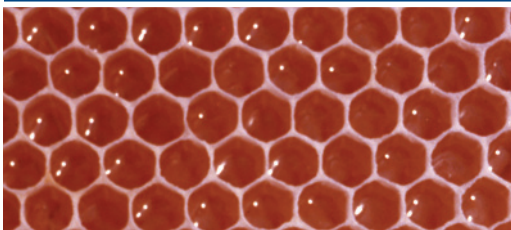
|  |    | 1996  | 2001 | 2006 |
|--|----|-------|------|------|
| Total Area Farmed                      | ha | 1,630 | 811  | 867  |
| Farmland Owned <sup>4</sup>            |    | 69%   | 91%  | na   |
| Farmland Leased <sup>4</sup>           |    | 31%   | 9%   | na   |
| Number of Farms <sup>5</sup> Reporting | #  | 107   | 97   | 96   |
| Average Farm Size                      | ha | 15.2  | 8.4  | 9    |

| Farmland Use        |    |                |     |     |
|---------------------|----|----------------|-----|-----|
| Crops               | ha | 361            | 242 | 172 |
| Summerfallow        | ha | x <sup>6</sup> | 4   | 0   |
| Pasture (managed)   | ha | 96             | 60  | 158 |
| Pasture (unmanaged) | ha | 74             | 161 | 203 |
| Other <sup>7</sup>  | ha | x              | 343 | 334 |
| Total               | ha | 1,630          | 811 | 867 |

| Crops                    |    |     |     |     |
|--------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Field Crops <sup>8</sup> | ha | 206 | 142 | 74  |
| Fruits, Berries & Nuts   | ha | 17  | 27  | 34  |
| Vegetables               | ha | 14  | 27  | 12  |
| Other <sup>9</sup>       | ha | 124 | 46  | 52  |
| Total                    | ha | 361 | 242 | 172 |

|                     |                |     |       |       |
|---------------------|----------------|-----|-------|-------|
| Mushrooms (farms)   | #              | 2   | 1     | 1     |
| (area)              | m <sup>2</sup> | x   | x     | x     |
| Greenhouses (farms) | #              | 21  | 19    | 20    |
| (area)              | m <sup>2</sup> | 956 | 8,099 | 6,710 |
| Nursery Products    | ha             | 22  | 14    | 34    |
| Sod Grown for Sale  | ha             | x   | x     | x     |
| Christmas Trees     | ha             | 28  | 28    | x     |

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The Agricultural Land Reserve accounts for about 1% of the Regional District's area.



#### PLEASE NOTE:

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Ministry of  
Agriculture  
and Lands

| Livestock                  | 1996  |           | 2001  |           | 2006  |           |
|----------------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|
|                            | Farms | Livestock | Farms | Livestock | Farms | Livestock |
| Hens & Chickens            | 48    | x         | 47    | 4,741     | 38    | 3,181     |
| Turkeys                    | 7     | 363       | 4     | x         | 6     | 88        |
| Total Other Poultry        | 20    | 274       | 15    | 235       | 13    | x         |
| Cattle & Calves            | 12    | 226       | 12    | 102       | 10    | 156       |
| Dairy Cows                 | 1     | x         | 3     | x         | 0     | 0         |
| Beef Cows                  | 6     | x         | 5     | x         | 7     | 47        |
| Pigs                       | 12    | 130       | 14    | 65        | 6     | 45        |
| Sheep & Lambs              | 17    | 330       | 10    | 227       | 11    | 114       |
| Horses & Ponies            | 12    | 63        | 12    | 57        | 16    | 102       |
| Goats                      | 6     | 23        | 6     | 13        | 7     | 27        |
| Wild Boar                  | na    | na        | 0     | 0         | 0     | 0         |
| Mink                       | na    | na        | 0     | 0         | 0     | 0         |
| Fox                        | na    | na        | 0     | 0         | 0     | 0         |
| Bison                      | na    | na        | 0     | 0         | 0     | 0         |
| Deer                       | na    | na        | 0     | 0         | 0     | 0         |
| Llamas & Alpacas           | 2     | x         | 7     | 22        | 5     | 15        |
| Rabbits                    | 12    | 137       | 3     | 38        | na    | na        |
| Colonies of Bees for Honey | 14    | 197       | 6     | 213       | 3     | x         |

|                |    | 1996 | 2001 | 2006 |
|----------------|----|------|------|------|
| Area Irrigated | ha | 39   | 26   | 33   |

|                            |  | 1996          | 2001          | 2006          |
|----------------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Farm Capital         |  | \$ 46,496,806 | \$ 39,517,347 | \$ 64,879,892 |
| Annual Gross Farm Receipts |  | \$ 4,832,881  | \$ 2,183,011  | \$ 2,583,742  |
| Annual Cash Wages Paid     |  | \$ 549,783    | \$ 614,068    | \$ 574,388    |

Source: Statistics Canada, 1996, 2001 and 2006 Census of Agriculture and, where applicable, Statistics Canada, customized tabulations, 1996, 2001 and 2006 Census of Agriculture.

- Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.
- Source: [www.marh.gov.bc.ca/MUNFIN/#statistics](http://www.marh.gov.bc.ca/MUNFIN/#statistics)
- ALR as of January 1, 2008 – Source: files of the Agricultural Land Commission
- Source: B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, Adapted from Statistics Canada, 1996, 2001 and 2006 Census of Agriculture.
- Over time, the official definition of "census farm" or "agricultural operation" has changed. An explanation of these changes can be found at: [www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/95-629-XIE/2007000/terms.htm#farm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/95-629-XIE/2007000/terms.htm#farm). In 2006, an "agricultural operation" was described generally as a farm, ranch or other agricultural operation producing agricultural products for sale or the intention of sale in the past 12 months. For a complete definition of "agricultural operation" and "agricultural products", refer to the Census glossary at: [www.statcan.ca/english/agcensus2006/glossary.htm#gt3](http://www.statcan.ca/english/agcensus2006/glossary.htm#gt3).
- 'x' indicates that farms reporting but further information not provided due to confidentiality.
- "Other": includes 'Unimproved Land', 'Other Improved Land' and 'Woodland'
- Field crop area does not include those crop areas not included for reasons of confidentiality.
- "Other" Crops: also account for area figures not provided due to confidentiality.